

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of ) **MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**  
Kenichi Takahashi et al. )  
Application No.: 10/720,128 ) Group Art Unit: 2625  
Filed: November 25, 2003 ) Examiner: Myles D. Robinson  
For: IMAGE PROCESSING ) Confirmation No.: 4396  
APPARATUS WITH )  
HIERARCHICAL ENCODER )

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 8, 2008, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: